

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 10164 021028Z

15

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

OMB-01 IO-10 SAJ-01 AGR-05 EB-07 /081 W

----- 053975

R 020817Z SEP 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6733

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

FBIS OKINAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 10164

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR CH

SUBJ: FLOODING IN HONAN

REF: HONG KONG 9768

1. FLOODING IN HONAN (REFTEL) CONTINUES TO AFFECT RAIL TRANSPORTATION IN CHINA, AND THE CENTRAL CHINA LINE HAS BEEN OUT OF OPERATION BETWEEN PEKING AND CANTON FO ABOUT FOUR WEEKS. NCNA OFFICIALS IN HONG KONG AT MALAYSIAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION (SEPTEMBER 1) TOLD AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMATS THAT THE RAIL LINE REMAINED OUT OF SERVICE BECAUSE OF THE FLOODING. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY PEKING OFFICIAL (BROWN) CONFIRMED THAT DURING HIS AUGUST 23 FLIGHT TO CANTON FLOODING WAS WIDESPREAD IN THE CHENGCHOW AREA AS WELL AS IN THE AREA ALONG THE KIANGSI"HUPEH BORDER.

2. AUSTRALIANS HAD FURTHER EVIDENCE OF HIS THIS IS
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PAGE 02 HONG K 10164 021028Z

AFFECTING SHIPMENT OF GOOD IN CHINA AS THEY HAD BEEN

UNABLE TO HIP EXHIBIT CATELAGOUES FROM HONG KONG TO
PEKING WITH THE MATERIAL STUCK IN A HONG KONG WAREHOUSE
AWAITING DELIVERY BETWEEN AUGUST 21 AND AUGUST 30.
INITIAL CHINESE INSTRUCTIONS WERE NOT TO MOVE THE
MATERIAL, AND ONLY INTERCESSION WITH NCNA ENABLED THE
AUSTRALIANS TO MOVE IT ON THE 31 ST VIA THE SHANGHAI
COASTAL ROUTE. IN ADDITION, NEW ZEALAND COMMISSION
OFFICER RICHARDS MENTIONED THAT NEW ZEALAND LANGUAGE
STUDENT WHO LEFT CHINA LAST WEEK HAD TAKEN NUMEROUS
PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING THE RESULTS OF FLOODING WHICH
INCLUDED HIGH WATER MARKS ABOVE THE ENTRANCE DOORS OF
HOMES. THE STUDENT HAD EXITED CHINA BY RAIL FROM
SHANGHAI, BUT HAD TO FOLLOW THE COASTAL ROUTE WHICH
APPARENTLY CONTINUES TO REMAIN OPEN AS NCNA OFFICIALS
INDICATED ON AUGUST 22 (REFTEL).
CROSS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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